



State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-2457 FAX (603) 271-7894



Mike Griffeth  
Pet Paradise  
96 D.W. Highway, Belknap Mall  
Belmont, New Hampshire 03220

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY  
WMB-ESP 2002-02  
February 19, 2002

Dear Mr. Griffeth:

On Monday February 18, 2002, personnel from the Department of Environmental Services, Water Division (NHDES) conducted an inspection of merchandise that you offered for sale in your store, Pet Paradise, Belmont, New Hampshire. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance with RSA 487:16-a, Exotic Aquatic Weed Prohibition.

Specifically, RSA 487:16-a (enacted January 1, 1998) states that "*No exotic aquatic weeds shall be offered for sale, distributed, sold, imported, purchased, propagated, transported, or introduced in the state.*" Fourteen species of exotic aquatic plants were listed as prohibited on September 5, 1998. This list has been enclosed for your information.

During the site inspection the following deficiencies were noted

*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*, commonly known as variable milfoil, was being offered for sale.

*Egeria densa*, commonly known as Anacharis or Brazilian elodea was being offered for sale.

Compliance with the cited deficiencies can be achieved by immediately destroying all plants of these species. Appropriate means of disposal include burning, land filling, disposing in a trash container, desiccating, and composting, if applied away from any surface waters.

In the event that appropriate actions are not taken, DES may order you to take remedial measures as may be necessary. Failure to comply with such order may result in enforcement action by DES under RSA 487:7. In addition, DES personnel may conduct another inspection at a later date to determine whether you have come into, and are maintaining, full compliance with the applicable statute.

Enclosed, for your information, are fact sheets detailing the legislation, and a list of prohibited exotic aquatic plants. If you have any questions please contact Amy Smagula at (603)271-2248 or [asmagula@des.state.nh.us](mailto:asmagula@des.state.nh.us).

Sincerely,

**COPY**

Jody Connor  
Director, Limnology Center Director

CERTIFIED MAIL

Enclosures

JC:aps

cc: Gretchen C. Rule, Enforcement Coordinator-DES ✓  
Russell A. Nylander, P.E., Chief Engineer-WD/DES  
Exotic Species Program-NHDES